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Security Council

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Letter dated 25 March 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

It gives me great pleasure to transmit herewith the Yemen initiative relevant to the resumption of dialogue between Fatah and Hamas (see annex).

The representatives of the two Palestinian movements also signed the Sana'a Declaration (see annex) on 23 March 2008, agreeing thereby to restart negotiation between the two movements on the basis of the elements contained in the Yemen initiative, and for the purpose of restoring the status quo ante, i.e., the situation that existed prior to the Gaza developments.

I would appreciate the circulation of the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdullah M. Alsaidi
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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Annex to the letter dated 25 March 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

The Yemeni initiative on the resumption of dialogue between Fatah and Hamas

I. Restoration of the status quo ante of 13 June 2007 in Gaza, adherence to the commitments made by the Palestine Liberation Organization and the holding of early presidential and parliamentary elections;

II. The resumption of dialogue shall be founded on the Cairo Agreement of 2005 and the Mecca Agreement of 2007 and on the basis that the Palestinian people are an indivisible whole; that the Palestinian Authority is composed of an elected President and Parliament and of an executive authority in the form a Government of national unity; and on a commitment to Palestinian legitimacy in all its elements;

III. The affirmation by all parties of respect for and commitment to the Palestinian Constitution and law;

IV. Reconstitution of the security services on a national basis, such that they are loyal to the supreme authority and the Government of national unity and that they have no relation to any faction;

V. Formation of a coalition Government of national unity, in which all factions are represented in accordance with the number of seats each holds in Parliament, and which is fully capable of undertaking its responsibilities;

VI. Formation by the League of Arab States of a committee composed of relevant States, such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic and Jordan, whose task shall be to implement the foregoing points. For its part, Yemen expresses its readiness to participate in the said committee, should it be asked to do so;

VII. Palestinian institutions shall include all factions without distinction and be under the control of the supreme authority and of the Government of national unity.

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

The Sana'a Declaration

We, the representatives of the Fatah and Hamas movements, hereby approve the Yemeni initiative as a framework for the resumption of dialogue between the movements, in order to restore the status quo ante to the situation existing prior to the events in Gaza, and in affirmation of the unity of the territory and the people of the Palestinian homeland and of a single authority.

(*Signed*) Azzam al-Ahmad
Representative of the Fatah movement

(*Signed*) Musa Abu Marzuq
Representative of the Hamas movement

Sana'a on 15 Rabi' I A.H. 1429,
corresponding to 23 March A.D. 2008